

Appendix 3: Capital expenditure and works

DES (2011) Constitution of Boards and Rules of Procedure Boards of Management of National Schools, P. 26

Capital expenditure and works

- (i) No alteration, extension or replacement of the school building and/or grounds shall be undertaken by the Board unless and until such have been approved in writing by the Patron and Trustees.
- (ii) In addition to the approval required under (i) above, capital expenditure for which grant aid is to be sought must not be entered into until prior written sanction to do so has been received from the Department.
- (iii) Boards must comply with current building and planning regulations and current public procurement requirements.
- (iv) Nothing in this Section shall prevent the Board from carrying out minor works covered by Circular 0141/2006 ("Grant Scheme for Minor Works to National School Properties"). If in doubt on the interpretation of the terms of that circular, the Board should consult with the Building Unit of the Department.
- (v) The Patron may designate the Chairperson or a member of the Board to act on behalf of the school authority in dealing with the Department in regard to capital expenses. Such designation must be made in writing.

Major Capital Works in National Schools (*INTO Website, www.into.ie*)

Capital grants are paid towards the provision of new buildings and major renovations. Major capital works in national schools are carried out in accordance with the Department of Education and Science's Planning and Building Guidelines (January 2000). (*These Guidelines are now under review and briefs should be prepared in agreement with the Planning and Building Unit.*)

On 10 January, 1999, the Department of Education and Science announced it would meet the entire cost of new sites for school building projects.

The local contribution to the cost of new schools is 5% and capped at €63,000. The local contribution to the cost of renovations, including extensions, is 10% and capped at €31,500. In special schools and schools which are designated as serving areas of significant disadvantage the local contribution for building work is set at 5% and capped at €12,500. The local contribution from Gaelscoileanna for renovations and extensions is 10% and capped at €31,500. There is no local contribution for devolved schemes Small Schools Scheme (SSS) and Permanent Accommodation Scheme (PAS). There is, however, a local contribution for the Summer Works Scheme.

Details of the Department of Education and Science's current Building Programme are posted on the Department's website at www.education.ie – School Planning/Building Section. FAQs and Technical Guidance documents are also available from the website.

Copies of application forms for grants are also available to download.

Enquiries and applications for Capital Grants should be addressed to the Department of Education and Science, Planning and Building Unit, Portlaoise Road, Tullamore, Co Offaly. Application forms are available to download from the DES website.

Tel: 057 93 24300 Fax: 057 93 25393

Email: Planning Unit: school_planning@education.gov.ie

Building Section: school_building@education.gov.ie